MODIFIED PTO/SB/08 (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Re

Sheet

o persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control

Substitute for form 1449B/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

Date Submitted: June 29, 2006

| (USE | as | many | sheets | as_nec | cessary |
|------|----|------|--------|--------|---------|
| | 1 | | | of | 1 |

| Complete if Known | | |
|------------------------|--------------------|--|
| Application Number | 10/681,309 | |
| Filing Date | 10/9/2003 | |
| First Named Inventor | Kazuo YATABE | |
| Group Art Unit | 3618 | |
| Examiner Name | Jeffrey J. Restifo | |
| Attorney Docket Number | 023971-0314 | |

| | U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | |
|--------------------|--------------------------|---------------|---|--|------------------------------|--|--|
| C | 0:1- | U.S. Patent (| Document | | Date of Publication of | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant | |
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Number | Kind Code ² (if known) | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY | Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | |
| JR. | B1 | 6,098,733 | | IBARAKI ET AL. | 08-08-2000 | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | <u> </u> | | | | | |

| | | | UNPUBLISH | HED U.S. PATENT APPLICATION | DOCUMENTS | |
|-----------|------|----------------|---|--|------------------------------|--|
| Examiner | Cite | U.S. Patent Ap | | Name of Datastas or Applicant of | Filing Date of | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant |
| Initials* | No.1 | Serial Number | Kind Code ² (II known) | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY | Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |

| | | | | FC | REIGN PATENT DOCUMEN | TS | | _ |
|-----------------------|--------------|-------|--|--|---|--|--|----------------|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No.1 | Offic | Foreign Patent Doc e ³ Number ⁴ | cument Kind Code ⁵ (/f known) | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Documents | Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | T [®] |
| IR | B2 | JP | 9-117008 | A | TOYOTA MOTOR CORP. | 05-02-1997 | | T |
| JR | В3 | JP | 11-332018 | Α | TOYOTA MOTOR CORP. | 11-30-1999 | | T |
| JR. | B4 | JP | 2000-92612 | Α | TOYOTA MOTOR CORP. | 03-31-2000 | | T |
| TR | B5_ | JP | 2001-320806 | Α | TOYOTA MOTOR CORP. | 11-16-2001 | | T |
| | 1 | _ | | | | l | | T |

| NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------|--|----------------|--|--|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No.1 | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | T [®] | | |
| | | | | | |

| Examiner / Signature | Jeffrey Restifo/ | Date Considered | 07/11/2006 |
|-------------------------|------------------|--------------------|------------|
|-------------------------|------------------|--------------------|------------|

^{*}EXAMINER: Initial If reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

WASH_1638664.1

¹ Unique citation designation number, ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁴Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 18 if possible. ⁴Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.